



Pradnya Niketan Education Society's

# THE ORCHID SCHOOL

Baner, Pune 411045

## Middle Domain News Letter AY 2025-26

Dear Parents,

As we step into another exciting chapter at The Orchid School, it is with immense joy and optimism that I welcome each one of you!

The start of a new academic year always brings with it a fresh canvas—brimming with promise, possibilities, and purpose.

I, Rinku Goyal, Unit Head, along with Shaily Bhatt, Coordinator of the Middle Domain, look forward to partnering with you in making this year meaningful and fulfilling for our middle school learners.

We are grateful to our leaders, Namrata di, our Director, and Sonali di, our Vice Principal, for their unwavering support and quiet strength. Their belief in our vision and thoughtful guidance continue to inspire us to lead with clarity and heart.

We are committed to nurturing academic excellence along with emotional resilience, self-awareness, and a strong sense of character. Our classrooms blend structure with freedom—providing a space where students feel safe, challenged, and inspired to grow.

The middle years are a time of quiet transformation. They are not just a bridge between childhood and adolescence—but the very place where futures begin to take shape. It's here that learners discover their voice, explore their passions, and begin to make sense of the world—not just through textbooks, but through conversations, choices, and connection.



# Theme of the Year - Communication

At the heart of our approach is learning that matters – learning that sparks thinking, encourages risk-taking, and shapes identity.

We, along with our passionate team of educators, aim to build a culture where every child feels seen, heard, and supported. We believe that true learning happens when curiosity is welcomed, mistakes are embraced, and students are empowered to take ownership of their growth.

It is in this spirit that we introduce our theme for the year: **Communication**.

In a world where conversations are often replaced by quick texts and digital replies, we want our learners to rediscover the power of real, meaningful communication – with themselves, with others, and with the world around them.

This year, we will be intentionally weaving opportunities for students to:

- Find their voice and express it with confidence
- Listen actively and with empathy
- Engage in thoughtful dialogue – online and offline
- Reflect deeply and resolve conflicts respectfully

Here's to a year of joyful learning, meaningful connections, and bold exploration – all rooted in the power of Communication.

Let's fill this canvas – together!



# Meet the Middle Domain Makers!



**Chandrani Dam**  
Class teacher  
V Robin



**Simran Swami**  
Class teacher  
V Pelican



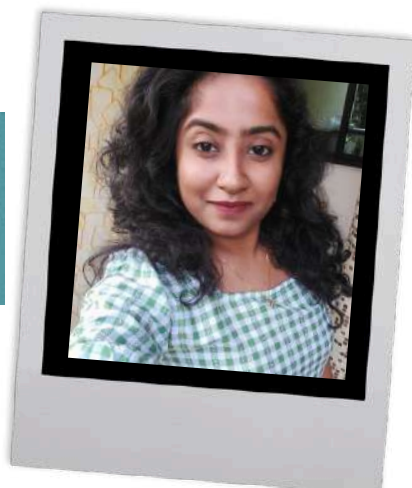
**Suparna Maity**  
Class teacher  
V Skylark



**Reeny George**  
Class teacher  
VI Dahlia



**Steffi Thomas**  
Class teacher  
VI Petunia



**Susmita Patnaik**  
Class teacher  
VI Zinnia



# Meet the Middle Domain Makers!



**Naveena Basu**  
Class teacher  
VII Lily



**Shitu Sahare**  
Class teacher  
VII Poppy



**Sharmistha Biswas**  
Class teacher  
VII Tulip



**Jyotsana Kaul**  
Class teacher  
VIII Canary



**Richa Joshi**  
Class teacher  
VIII Sepia



**Purva Gangrade**  
Class teacher  
VIII Oyster



# Meet the Middle Domain Makers!



**Manjusha Chattr**  
Subject teacher  
Marathi



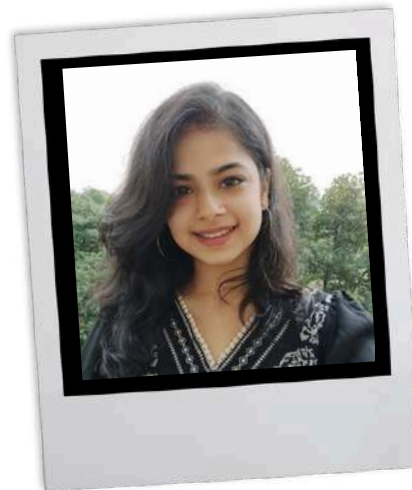
**Sudisha Shingare**  
Subject teacher  
Marathi



**Sumedha Sood**  
Subject teacher  
Hindi



**Yashada Dixit**  
Counselor



**Pragati Babel**  
Special Educator



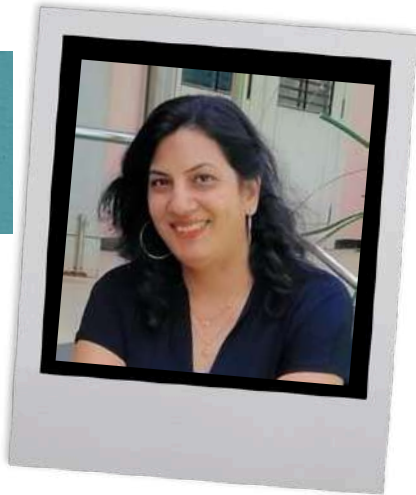
**Sujata Gawade**  
Library Skills



# Meet the Middle Domain Makers!



**Deepali Mandge**  
Computer Teacher



**Aarti Nerkar**  
Computer Teacher



**Sayee Sathé**  
Bharatnatyam  
Teacher



**Adesh Mandlik**  
Contemporary  
Dance Teacher



**Ashish Sunderraj**  
Music Teacher



**Aishwarya Rane**  
Music Teacher



# Meet the Middle Domain Makers!



**Sagar Jadhav**  
Visual Art Teacher



**Vikrant Parihar**  
Tabla Teacher



**Ganesh Bhojji**  
Djembe Teacher



**Anil Kokate**  
Sports Teacher



**Prasad More**  
Sports Teacher

**Shaily Bhatt**  
Coordinator



**Rinku Goyal**  
Unit Head



## Learning Beyond the Books -Various Programs



CS Soch is an ed-tech program for Classes V to VIII that builds critical thinking, sequencing, and problem-solving skills. Through engaging stories and puzzles, it introduces students to pre-coding concepts in a fun, accessible way—supporting our commitment to integrating meaningful technology in learning.

Open Door, introduced last year for Classes VI to VIII, provides competency-based assessments aligned with our textbooks and learning goals. By using unfamiliar, thought-provoking questions, it strengthens conceptual understanding and critical thinking. Seeing its impact, we are now extending it to Class V.



Eduten is a gamified math platform combining AI and Finnish pedagogy to offer personalized, auto-assessed practice. With proven success in Classes VI–VIII, it is now extended to Class V to further support skill-building and real-time learning insights.

Britannica is a trusted digital learning platform used primarily for Science and Social Science in Classes VI to VIII. It offers age-appropriate, curriculum-aligned content with engaging visuals, supports project work and inquiry-based learning, and builds research skills through safe, verified resources—encouraging independent exploration.



LogIQids is a tech-based platform for Classes V to VIII that builds critical thinking, logic, and problem-solving skills through age-appropriate puzzles and brain games. With adaptive levels and progress tracking, it promotes independent thinking and supports the development of essential 21st-century skills in a fun, engaging way.

# Learning Beyond the Books -Various Programs



Robokidz is an engaging STEM program that introduces students to robotics, coding, and problem-solving through hands-on activities. From basic robot building to advanced projects, it fosters creativity, teamwork, and critical thinking, preparing learners for future technology challenges in a fun and interactive way.

## Skill-Building in Action: Golden Hour & Bagless Days

At The Orchid School, we believe that learning is most impactful when it engages both the mind and the hands. In alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, we have thoughtfully introduced Golden Hour and Bagless Days to help students explore, create, and connect beyond textbooks.

Golden Hour (for Grades VI and VII) is a dedicated space in the timetable where students engage in hands-on, skill-based activities that spark creativity and build confidence. Through a vibrant mix of offerings such as Mandala art, Kirigami, Pottery, Guitar, Dance, Fabric Painting, and more, learners get to explore their interests, express themselves, and develop fine motor and artistic skills in a joyful, non-evaluative environment.

Bagless Days (for Grades VI to VIII) further reinforce experiential learning by lightening the academic load and connecting classroom concepts with the real world. Students participate in vocational and community-based activities, visit local small-scale businesses, and engage in observation-driven projects that build critical life skills such as problem-solving, decision-making, collaboration, and presentation.

Together, Golden Hour and Bagless Days foster a learning culture that values creativity, purpose, and practical skills — helping students grow into confident, capable, and curious individuals ready to navigate the future.

## After School Program

Taekwondo is part of our after-school offerings at The Orchid School, supporting holistic development through physical fitness, discipline, and self-confidence. Conducted in a safe, structured environment, this optional program helps students build focus, resilience, and respect. Sessions will be held thrice a week — Monday, Wednesday, and Friday — after school hours.

# In Gratitude and Partnership

As we begin this new chapter, we do so with sheer gratitude – for the trust you place in us, the enthusiasm your children bring to our classrooms, and the shared belief that together, we can make these formative years truly meaningful.

We promise to walk alongside each learner with care and commitment – encouraging their strengths, supporting their challenges, and celebrating their journey.

This year, as we focus on Communication as a core value, we invite you to be part of this dialogue – to share, to listen, and to grow with us in building a community where every child feels heard and understood.

Here's to a year where words build bridges, listening becomes an act of empathy, and each learner discovers the strength of their own voice.

Let's co-create a learning journey rooted in purpose, connection, and the courage to communicate – with clarity and heart.

Warm regards,

Rinku Goyal

Unit Head – Middle Domain

